

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY AF/E:TJBURKE:BR

APPROVED BY AF/E:WBCOOTE

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R 112158Z JUN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 123679

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CPRS, ZA, US

SUBJECT: CROTHERS CASE

REF: LUSAKA 1076, 1170

1. DEPT APPRECIATES POST'S CONTINUING EFFORTS TO BRING CROTHERS CASE TO SATISFACTORY CONCLUSION.
 2. FOLLOWING RECEIPT LUSAKA 1076 AF/E DIRECTOR WROTE TO CROTHERS CONVEYING SUBSTANCE OF THAT MESSAGE. LETTER MADE POINT OF SUPPORTING AMBASSADOR'S BELIEF THAT AGREEMENT BY CROTHERS NOT REPEAT NOT TO PUBLICIZE ANY SETTLEMENT MAY BE CRUCIAL FACTOR IN REACHING AGREEMENT ACCEPTABLE TO BOTH CROTHERS AND GRZ. LETTER ALSO INDICATED AMBASSADOR'S CONTINUED EMPHASIS THAT DOLS 10,000 FIGURE UNACCEPTABLY LOW AS WELL AS GRZ'S INSISTENCE THAT DOLS 40,000 FIGURE TOO HIGH, AND EXPRESSED HOPE - BUT STRICTLY A HOPE - THAT SOME COMPROMISE MIGHT BE POSSIBLE. DID NOT, HOWEVER, MENTION ANY POSSIBLE COMPROMISE FIGURE. ALSO MADE IT CLEAR THAT WE HAD NO ASSURANCE THAT GRZ WOULD AGREE TO PAYMENT IN EXCESS OF DOLS 10,000. DEPARTMENT AWAITING CROTHERS REACTION.
 3. DEPARTMENT CONSIDERING WHETHER IT MIGHT BE USEFUL TO SUPPLEMENT YOUR EFFORTS BY CALLING IN ZAMBIAN AMBASSADOR TO REVIEW STATUS OF CASE WITH HIM AND REITERATE POINTS MADE
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BY AMBASSADOR IN HER RECENT CONVERSATIONS WITH MWAANGA AND

CHONA. WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S VIEWS AS TO WHETHER SUCH

APPROACH LIKELY BE SUPPORTIVE TO EFFORTS IN LUSAKA OR
WHETHER GRZ OFFICIALS CONCERNED LIKELY TO REACT NEGATIVELY
TO INCREASE IN PRESSURE ON THIS ISSUE AT TIME WHEN THEY
PRESUMABLY ARE GIVING MATTER FURTHER ATTENTION. BROWN

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